

REMARKS

The following is intended as a full and complete response to the Final Office Action mailed on January 10, 2005. Claims 1, 3-6, 8-32, 34-37, 39-55 and 57 were examined. The Examiner rejected all of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious in view of Asente in combination with Crawford and under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious in view of Asente in combination with Kumar. In response, Applicant is amending independent claims 1, 32, 55 and 57.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) and Examiner Teleconference

Applicant is amending claim 1 to further clarify how the selected grid is used to map the objects relative to the constraint. In particular, detail is being added to the fourth and fifth limitations of claim 1 for this purpose. Applicant is making similar amendments to independent claims 32, 55 and 57 as well.

The Examiner and Applicant's undersigned attorney held teleconferences on March 7, 2005 and March 8, 2005 to discuss ways to further prosecution. The amendments to the independent claims reflect the substance of those teleconferences.

As discussed with the Examiner, Asente discloses only mapping objects onto a constraint using a selected spacing distance between the objects. Crawford and Kumar disclose only using grids to organize objects. None of the cited references teaches a relationship between the selected grid and the constraint or how the grid is used to map objects relative to the constraint. For these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the amended claims are allowable over the cited references and requests withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection of the claims.

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CONCLUSION

Based on the above remarks, Applicant believes that he has overcome all of the rejections and objections set forth in the Final Office Action mailed January 10, 2005 and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, please contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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